

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019465979 Filing Date: 02/01/2023 03:27:21 PM CST

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MAUREEN BARRETT	CASE NO. CI 23
Plaintiff,	COMPLAINT & DEMAND
v.	FOR TRIAL BY JURY
WALMART, INC.,	
Defendant.	

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Maureen Barrett, and for her cause of action against the Defendant alleges and states as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff Maureen Barrett is a resident of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska.
- 2. Defendant Walmart, Inc., ("Walmart") is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of business located in Bentonville, Arkansas, that at all times relevant operated and controlled a retail store located at 8525 S. 71st Plaza, Papillion, Sarpy County, Nebraska ("the Papillion Walmart") and any employees thereof.
- 3. Venue is appropriate in Sarpy County, Nebraska, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-403.01, as the cause of action described hereafter arises there.
- 4. The Court has jurisdiction over Walmart, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-536, as it transacts business in this state.
- 5. Walmart and its employees owe the patrons of the Pappillion Walmart a duty of ordinary care.
- 6. That on or about December 10, 2022, Maureen Barrett went to the Papillion Walmart to shop.
- 7. While shopping at the store, Maureen Barrett was struck by an unidentified Walmart employee, who was pushing a large cart out of a nearby aisle in the course of their employment, or was so nearly struck by said unidentified Walmart employee, that she was forced to undertake emergency evasive action.

- 8. That such actions by the unidentified Walmart employee, in failing to sufficiently keep a lookout or keep the cart under control, leading to the collision or near collision were a breach of Walmart's duty of ordinary care to Barrett and other patrons of the Papillion Walmart.
- 9. That as a direct, and proximate result of the Walmart's employee either making direct contact or nearly making contact with Maureen Barrett, she sustained person injuries resulting in physical pain, mental suffering, physical disfigurement, permanent injury to her body, emotional distress, inconvenience, anxiety, worry, stress, embarrassment, and humiliation; her injuries are permanent, and she may reasonably expect to experience physical and emotional pain and suffering into the future.
- 10. That as a further direct and proximate result of Walmart's employee either making direct contact with Maureen Barrett, or nearly making contact with her, she incurred medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries. Her injuries are permanent, and she may reasonably expect to incur future medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries.
- 11. The Plaintiff hereby makes a demand for a jury trial in this matter. WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays for judgment for their special and general damages and her costs herein expended.

DATED on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2023.

MAUREEN BARRETT, PLAINTIFF,

By:

Steven M. Lathrop, #16602

HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C. 1005 South 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200

Omaha, NE 68114

T: (402) 390-9000 F: (402) 397-7915

slathrop@omahapersonalinjury.com ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

**AND** 

Kyle J. McGinn, #25696

HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C. 1005 South 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200

Omaha, NE 68114

T: (402) 390-9000

F: (402) 397-7915

kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019465979 Filing Date: 02/01/2023 03:27:21 PM CST

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MAUREEN BARRETT,	CASE NO. CI 23
Plaintiff,	
VS.	PRAECIPE
WALMART, INC.,	
Defendant.	
TO: CLERK OF THE COURT	
Please issue a summons for serv	vice to be made upon the below-named
Defendant as follows:	
Walmart, Ir	nc.
c/o C T Corporation System 5601 South	59th Street Suite C Lincoln, NE 68516
Please return the Summons to attorprocess of service by certified mail and re	orneys for Plaintiff, as Plaintiff elects for eturn receipt requested.
MODE OF SERVICE: Certified M	Iail [X] Sheriff []
DATED on this 1st day of	February, 2023.
By: Steven HAUP 1005 Omal: T: (4) F: (4) slathr	n M. Lathrop, # 6602 rtman, O'Brien, Wolf & Lathrop, P.C. South 107 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200 na, NE 68114 02) 390-9000 02) 397-7915 op@omahapersonalinjury.com DRNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

## AND

Kyle J. McGinn, #25696

HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C. 1005 South 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200

Omaha, NE 68114

T: (402) 390-9000 F: (402) 397-7915

kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

Image ID: D00252216D59

#### **SUMMONS**

Doc. No. 252216

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF Sarpy COUNTY, NEBRASKA Sarpy County Courthouse
1210 Golden Gate Dr, Ste 3141
Papillion NE 68046 3087

Maureen Barrett v. Walmart, Inc.

Case ID: CI 23 223

TO: Walmart, Inc.

FILED BY

Clerk of the Sarpy District Court 02/02/2023

You have been sued by the following plaintiff(s):

Maureen Barrett

Plaintiff's Attorney: Steven M Lathrop

Address: 1005 South 107th Avenue Ste 200

Omaha, NE 68114

Telephone: (402) 390-9000

A copy of the complaint/petition is attached. To defend this lawsuit, an appropriate response must be served on the parties and filed with the office of the clerk of the court within 30 days of service of the complaint/petition. If you fail to respond, the court may enter judgment for the relief demanded in the complaint/petition.

Nebraska Supreme Court Rule 2-208 requires individuals involved in a case who are not attorneys and representing themselves to provide their email address to the court in order to receive notice by email from the court about the case. Complete and return the attached form to the court if representing yourself.

Date: FEBRUARY 2, 2023 BY THE COURT:

CLERK CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT

## **SUMMONS**

Doc. No. 252216

PLAINTIFF'S DIRECTIONS FOR SERVICE OF SUMMONS AND A COPY OF THE COMPLAINT/PETITION ON:

Walmart, Inc. CT Corporation System, reg agent 5601 S. 59th Street Suite C Lincoln, NE 68516

Method of service: Certified Mail

You are directed to make such service within ten days after the date of issue, and file with the court clerk proof of service within ten days after the signed receipt is received or is available electronically, whichever occurs first.

Doc. No. 252216

SARPY COUNTY DISTRICT COURT
Sarpy County Courthouse
1210 Golden Gate Dr, Ste 3141
Papillion NE 68046 3087

To: Case ID	: CI 23 223 Maureen Barre	tt v. Walmart, Inc.						
	Received this Summons on	, I hereby certify that on						
	upon the party:	at o'clockM. I served copies of the Summons						
	by							
	as required by Nebraska state law.							
	Service and return \$							
		<u> </u>						
	Mileagemiles							
	TOTAL \$	<u> </u>						
	Date:	BY: (Sheriff or authorized person)						
	CERTIFIED MAIL							
	PROOF OF SERVICE Copies of the Summons were mailed by certified mail, TO THE PARTY:							
	on the day of	, as required by Nebraska state lav						
	Postage \$ Attorney	for:						
	The return receipt for mailing to the	party was signed on,						
To: Walmart,	Inc. ration System, reg agent	From: Steven M Lathrop 1005 South 107th Avenue Ste 200						

Omaha, NE 68114

5601 S. 59th Street Suite C

Lincoln, NE 68516

## SERVICE RETURN

Case Number: D59C/230000223 Transaction ID: 0019496179

Filing Date: 02/08/2023 12:06:43 PM CST

SARPY COUNTY DISTRICT COURT Sarpy County Courthouse 1210 Golden Gate Dr, Ste 3141 NE 68046 3087 Papillion

To:

Case

ID: CI 23 223 Maureen Barrett	v. Walmart, Inc.
	hat on
SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION  Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.  Article Addressed to:  Walmart, Inc. CT Corporation System  5601 5. 59 thst. Suite C  Lincoln NE 68516  2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 7022 0410 0001 8493 6984	A. Signature  X
	(over \$500)  Domestic Return Receipt
PS Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053	BY:
Date:	(Sheriff or authorized person)
PRO Copies of the Summons were mailed by	ERTIFIED MAIL OOF OF SERVICE by certified mail, Walmart, Inc. stered agent CT Corporation  St. Suite C, Lincoln, NE 68516
on the 2nd day of February	
Postage \$ 8.34 Attorney f	arty was signed on February 6, 2023
mart, Inc. Corporation System, reg agent	From: Steven M Lathrop  1005 South 107th Avenue Ste 200  Omaha. NE 68114

To: Walm CT C 5601 S. 59th Street Suite C Lincoln, NE 68516

Omaha, NE 68114

I hereby certify that on Wednesday, February 08, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Return-Summons/Alias Summons to the following:

Signature: /s/ Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602)

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019616484 Filing Date: 03/07/2023 04:38:04 PM CST

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MAUREEN BARRETT,	
Plaintiff,	Case No. CI 23-223
v.	JOINT MOTION FOR
WALMART, INC.,	EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO PLAINTIFF'S
Defendant.	COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Maureen Barrett and Defendant Walmart, Inc. jointly move the Court for an extension of time for Defendant to answer or otherwise respond to the Plaintiff's Complaint until on or before April 7, 2023.

In support of this Motion, the Parties state Plaintiff served with Summons and a copy of the Complaint on February 6, 2023, that Defendant's initial answer date is March 8, 2023. Therefore, this Motion is within the time originally allotted for Defendant's response. Furthermore, counsel for the Parties have discussed Plaintiff's intention to amend the Complaint, and the Parties agree that extending the time for Defendant to respond to the Complaint is in the best interests of the Parties, as it should allow sufficient time for Plaintiff to amend her Complaint.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023.

### MAUREEN BARRETT, Plaintiff,

### By: /s/ *Kyle J. McGinn*

Kyle J. McGinn (NE# 25696) HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C.

1005 South 107th Avenue, Suite 200

Omaha, NE 68114 Phone: 402-390-9000 Facsimile: 402-397-7915

Email:

kmcginn@omahaperosnalinjury.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

### WALMART INC., Defendant,

### By: /s/ *Mark J. Goldsmith*

Mark J. Goldsmith (NE# 26429) BAIRD HOLM LLP 1700 Farnam St, Ste 1500 Omaha, NE 68102-2068

Phone: 402-344-0500 Facsimile: 402-344-0588

Email: mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com

Attorney for Defendant

DOCS/2938364.1

I hereby certify that on Wednesday, March 08, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Motion-Additional Time to the following:

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602) service method: Electronic Service to mwatson@hauptman-obrien.net

Signature: /s/ MARK JOSEPH GOLDSMITH (Bar Number: 26429)

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019619666 Filing Date: 03/14/2023 03:05:52 PM CDT

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MAUREEN BARRETT,		
Plaintiff,	Case No. CI 23-223	
v.	ORDER GRANTING JOINT	
WALMART, INC.,	MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO	
Defendant.	PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT	
	<del></del>	

Joint Motion for Extension of Time to Respond to Plaintiff's Complaint is **granted**.

**IT IS SO ORDERED** that Defendant, Walmart, Inc. has until on or before April 7, 2023 to file its Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint or otherwise plead.

**DATED** this 14thday of March, 2023.

District Court Judge

Prepared and submitted by: Mark J. Goldsmith (NE#26429) Baird Holm LLP 1700 Farnam Street, Ste. 1500 Omaha, NE 68102 402.344.0500 Attorney for Defendant

DOCS/2939566.1

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, the undersigned, certify that on March 14, 2023 , I served a copy of the foregoing document upon the following persons at the addresses given, by mailing by United States Mail, postage prepaid, or via E-mail:

Mark J Goldsmith mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com Steven M Lathrop slathrop@hauptman-obrien.net

Date: March 14, 2023 BY THE COURT: And Heath

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019757908 Filing Date: 04/07/2023 10:07:01 AM CDT

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

	)
MAUREEN BARRETT,	)
,	) Case No. CI 23-223
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) DEFENDANT WALMART
	) INC.'S MOTION TO DISMISS
WALMART, INC.,,	)
	)
Defendant.	)

Defendant Walmart, Inc. (hereinafter "Walmart"), by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby submits this Motion to Dismiss pursuant to NEB. CT. R. PLDG. § 6-1112(b)(6) and § 6-1108(a) because the Plaintiff Maureen Barrett (hereinafter "Plaintiff") has failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted against Walmart. In support of this Motion, Walmart submits the following:

- 1. The Complaint alleges that on or about December 10, 2022, Ms. Barrett visited the Walmart store located in Papillion, Sarpy County, Nebraska ("the Store"). (Complaint at ¶ 6).
- 2. Ms. Barrett claims that, while in the store, she was "struck" or "nearly struck" by a Walmart associate. (Id. ¶ 7) Ms. Barrett contends that the "collision or near collision" was the result of Walmart's alleged negligence (Id. at ¶ 8) and that, as a result, she sustained alleged personal injuries (Id. at ¶ 9).
- 3. Ms. Barrett alleges in her Complaint that she "incurred medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries," resulting from the collision or near collision. (Id. at ¶ 10; see also Id. at ¶ 11 re: prayer for "special and general damages")
  - 4. Nebraska Pleading Rule § 6-1108(a) provides that "[i]f the recovery of

money be demanded" in a complaint, "the amount of special damages shall be stated[.]"

- 5. In violation of this requirement, the Complaint does not list the special damages the Plaintiff is seeking.
  - 6. Under Nebraska law, medical expenses are a category of special damages.
- 7. The Plaintiff should be required to file an Amended Complaint that complies with § 6-1108(a).

WHEREFORE, Defendant Walmart Inc. prays for an order dismissing the Complaint, and/or requiring Ms. Barrett to file an Amended Complaint that fully complies with NEB. CT. R. PLDG. § 6-1108(a).

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.

WALMART INC., Defendant,

By: /s/ Mark J. Goldsmith

Mark J. Goldsmith (NE #26429) George E. Martin III (NE #21747)

Of BAIRD HOLM LLP 1500 Woodmen Tower 1700 Farnam Street Omaha, NE 68102-2068

Phone: 402-344-0500

mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com gemartin@bairdholm.com

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the above Motion will be called for hearing before the Honorable Michael A. Smith, District Judge, Sarpy County, Nebraska on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard.

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on April 7, 2023, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to counsel of record:

Steven M. Lathrop Kyle J. McGinn Hauptman, O'Brien, Wolf & Lathrop, PC 1004 South 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200 Omaha, NE 68114 slathrop@omahapersonalinjury.com kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com

/s/Mark J. Goldsmith

DOCS/2951869.1

I hereby certify that on Friday, April 07, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Motion-Dismissal to the following:

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602) service method: Electronic Service to mwatson@hauptman-obrien.net

Signature: /s/ MARK JOSEPH GOLDSMITH (Bar Number: 26429)

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019757908 Filing Date: 04/07/2023 10:07:01 AM CDT

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MANDEEN DADDEET	)
MAUREEN BARRETT,	)
DI * 4*66	) Case No. CI 23-223
Plaintiff,	)
	)
VS.	) DEFENDANT WALMART
	) INC.'S BRIEF IN SUPPORT
WALMART, INC., ,	) OF MOTION TO DISMISS
	)
Defendant.	)
	,

The Defendant, Walmart, Inc. (hereinafter "Walmart"), submits this brief in support of its Motion to Dismiss (the "Motion"). The Court should grant the Motion because Plaintiff Maureen Barrett's ("Barrett") complaint does not comply with Nebraska Pleading Rule § 6-1108(a); it fails to specify the dollar amount of her alleged special damages.

### I. Pertinent Pleaded Allegations

Ms. Barrett alleges that on December 10, 2022, she visited the Walmart store located in Papillion, Nebraska. (Complaint at  $\P$  6) Ms. Barrett claims that, while in the store, she was "struck" or "nearly struck" by a Walmart associate. (*Id.*  $\P$  7) Ms. Barrett contends that the "collision or near collision" was the result of Walmart's alleged negligence (*Id.* at  $\P$  8) and that, as a result, she sustained alleged personal injuries (*Id.* at  $\P$  9).

Ms. Barrett alleges in her Complaint that she "incurred medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries," resulting from the collision or near collision. (Id. at ¶ 10; see also Id. at ¶ 11 re: prayer for "special and general damages") The Complaint, however fails to specify the amount of medical damages she is seeking. (Id., gen'ly)

#### II. Legal Standard

At the motion to dismiss stage, the court "accepts as true all facts which are well pled and the proper and reasonable inferences of law and fact which may be drawn therefrom, but not the plaintiff's conclusion." *Peterson v. Kings Gate Partners-Omaha I, L.P.*, 290 Neb. 658, 660 (2015). "To prevail against a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim, a plaintiff must allege sufficient facts, accepted as true, to state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." *Id.* at 660-61.

A complaint may also be dismissed where it fails to comply with the Nebraska Pleading Rules. *See Stunkel v. Cty. of Dawson*, 2020 WL 7213501, \*8 (Neb. App. 2020) (unpublished) (affirming order "dismissing the operative complaint under the pleading rules").

## III. Argument

The Court should grant the Motion, because Ms. Barrett was required to plead the amount of her special damages in her Complaint, and she failed to do so.

Nebraska Pleading Rule § 6-1108(a) provides that "[i]f the recovery of money be demanded" in a complaint, "the amount of special damages shall be stated[.]" In turn, "special damages" are "those suffered by a claimant because they are out-of-pocket damages." *Hatcher v. McShane*, 12 Neb. App. 239, 245-46 (2003). Stated differently, "[s]pecial damages are those capable of accurate determination by some means other than the opinion of the judge or jury." *Id.* at 246.

Under Nebraska law, medical expenses are a form of special damages. In *Stephens v. Pillen*, 12 Neb. App. 600 (2004), for example, the court held that "medical expenses" are a form of "special damages" that "would require specific proof to be awarded." *Id.* at 608. Other cases confirm the same point. *E.g.*, *Schneider v. Chavez-Munoz*, 9 Neb. App. 579, 592 (2000) (assessing jury award of "special damages for medical expenses"); *Schaefer v. McCreary*, 216 Neb. 739, 742 (1984) (holding that the plaintiff's "medical expenses to date of trial" were part of the "special damages" he received).

Thus, Rule § 6-1108(a) requires Ms. Barrett to specify, in her Complaint, the dollar amount of her alleged medical expenses. Because the Complaint fails to do so, the Court should grant the Motion and dismiss the Complaint and/or require Ms. Barrett to file an amended complaint that specifies the amount of her medical expenses.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.

WALMART INC., Defendant,

By: /s/ Mark J. Goldsmith

Mark J. Goldsmith (NE #26429) George E. Martin III (NE# 21747) Of BAIRD HOLM LLP

1500 Woodmen Tower 1700 Farnam Street

Omaha, NE 68102-2068 Phone: 402-344-0500

gemartin@bairdholm.com mroccaforte@bairdholm.com

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on April 7, 2023, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to counsel of record:

Steven M. Lathrop Kyle J. McGinn Hauptman, O'Brien, Wolf & Lathrop, PC 1004 South 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200 Omaha, NE 68114 slathrop@omahapersonalinjury.com kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com

/s/Mark J. Goldsmith

I hereby certify that on Friday, April 07, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Brief to the following:

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602) service method: Electronic Service to mwatson@hauptman-obrien.net

Signature: /s/ MARK JOSEPH GOLDSMITH (Bar Number: 26429)

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019788636 Filing Date: 04/14/2023 11:58:27 AM CDT

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

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MAUREEN BARRETT,	) CASE NO.: CI 23-223
Plaintiff,	)
v.	) ) PLAINTIFF'S NOTICE OF SERVING ) DISCOVERY UPON ) DEFENDANT
WALMART, INC.,	)
Defendant.	) )
Plaintiff hereby gives notice of Defendant Walmart, Inc. to include a Recemail and U.S. mail postage prepaid on the	
DATED this 14th day of April, 2023.	•
MAUF	REEN BARRETT, Plaintiff,
	Kyle Living

Ву:

Kyle McGinn, #25696
HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C.
1005 S. 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200
Omaha, NE 68114
(402) 390-9000
(402) 397-7915 (fax)
kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

I hereby certify that on Friday, April 14, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Notice-Serving Documents to the following:

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602) service method: Electronic Service to mwatson@hauptman-obrien.net

Walmart, Inc. represented by MARK JOSEPH GOLDSMITH (Bar Number: 26429) service method: Electronic Service to mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com

Signature: /s/ Kyle McGinn (Bar Number: 25696)

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019889779

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEDECTOR 25/08/2023 01:12:49 PM CDT

MAUREEN BARRETT,

CASE NO. CI 23 - 223

Plaintiff,

VS.

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE AMENDED COMPLAINT

WALMART, INC.,

Defendant.

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Maureen Barrett, by and through her attorney of record, Kyle J. McGinn, and pursuant to Neb. Ct. R. Pldg. §6-115 hereby requests the Court's permission to amend her Complaint filed herein, as set forth in the proposed Amended Complaint attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "A". In support, Plaintiff states as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff commenced this action on February 1, 2023, which concerns a December 3, 2022 incident at a Walmart retail location in Pappillion, Sarpy County, Nebraska. Plaintiff's treatment for her alleged injuries sustained as a result of this incident is ongoing.
- 2. In response, Defendant has filed a Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint, citing exclusively Plaintiff's failure to observe Neb. Ct. R. Pldg. §6-1109(h), which requires her to enumerate her special damages, if claimed.
- 3. Plaintiff, through her Counsel, has promptly sought a copy of her current accident-related medical bills, in a good faith effort to comply with Neb. Ct. R. Pldg. §6-1109(h). To date, she has obtained copies of bills totaling \$14,095.00.
- 4. Plaintiff is thus seeking leave of Court to file the attached Amended Complaint, solely to include this figure. Of course, "leave shall be freely given when justice so requires." Neb. Ct. R. Pldg. §6-1115(a).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests this Court enter an Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to File an Amended Complaint, and for such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable.

## DATED this 8th day of May, 2023.

MAUREEN BARRETT, Plaintiff

By:

Kyle J. McGinn, #25696

HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C.

1005 S 107<sup>th</sup> Ave Ste 200

Omaha, NE 68114 Voice: (402) 390-9000 Fax: (402) 397-7915

Email: kmcginn@hauptman-obrien.net

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

It is hereby certified that a copy of the above and foregoing document was emailed to the below-listed attorney of record on this  $8^{th}$  day of May, 2023.

Mark J. Goldsmith
Baird Holm LLP
1700 Farnam Street
Suite 1500
Omaha, NE 68102-2068
mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com

Lyle hiving

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

#### MAUREEN BARRETT

CASE NO. CI 23-223

Plaintiff,

v.

AMENDED COMPLAINT & DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

WALMART, INC.,

Defendant.

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Maureen Barrett, and for her Amended Complaint against the Defendant Walmart, Inc., alleges and states as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff Maureen Barrett is a resident of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska.
- 2. Defendant Walmart, Inc., ("Walmart") is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of business located in Bentonville, Arkansas, that at all times relevant operated and controlled a retail store located at 8525 S. 71st Plaza, Papillion, Sarpy County, Nebraska ("the Papillion Walmart") and any employees thereof.
- 3. Venue is appropriate in Sarpy County, Nebraska, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-403.01, as the cause of action described hereafter arises there.
- 4. The Court has jurisdiction over Walmart, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-536, as it transacts business in this state.
- 5. Walmart and its employees owe the patrons of the Papillion Walmart a duty of ordinary care.
- 6. That on or about December 10, 2022, Maureen Barrett went to the Papillion Walmart to shop.
- 7. While shopping at the store, Maureen Barrett was struck by an unidentified Walmart employee, who was pushing a large cart out of a nearby aisle in the course of their employment or was so nearly struck by said unidentified Walmart employee, that she was forced to undertake emergency evasive action.



- 8. That such actions by the unidentified Walmart employee, in failing to sufficiently keep a lookout or keep the cart under control, leading to the collision or near collision were a breach of Walmart's duty of ordinary care to Barrett and other patrons of the Papillion Walmart.
- 9. That as a direct, and proximate result of the Walmart's employee either making direct contact or nearly making contact with Maureen Barrett, she sustained person injuries resulting in physical pain, mental suffering, physical disfigurement, permanent injury to her body, emotional distress, inconvenience, anxiety, worry, stress, embarrassment, and humiliation; her injuries are permanent, and she may reasonably expect to experience physical and emotional pain and suffering into the future.
- 10. That as a further direct and proximate result of Walmart's employee either making direct contact with Maureen Barrett, or nearly making contact with her, she incurred medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries. **Barrett's medical expenses to date total \$14,095.00**. Her injuries are permanent, and she may reasonably expect to incur future medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries.
- 11. The Plaintiff hereby makes a demand for a jury trial in this matter. WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays for judgment for their special and general damages and her costs herein expended.

DATED	on	this	day	of	May,	2023.

## MAUREEN BARRETT, Plaintiff,

By:	
	Steven M. Lathrop, #16602
	Kyle J. McGinn, #25696
	HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C
	1005 South 107th Avenue, Suite 200
	Omaha, NE 68114
	T: (402) 390-9000
	F: (402) 397-7915
	slathrop@omahapersonalinjury.com
	kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com
	ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

I hereby certify that on Monday, May 08, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Motion-Leave to File Additional Pleadings to the following:

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602) service method: Electronic Service to mwatson@hauptman-obrien.net

Walmart, Inc. represented by MARK JOSEPH GOLDSMITH (Bar Number: 26429) service method: Electronic Service to mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com

Signature: /s/ Kyle McGinn (Bar Number: 25696)

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019890304

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBITAS RALE: 05/08/2023 01:57:07 PM CDT

MAUREEN BARRETT,	) CASE NO.: CI 23-223			
Plaintiff,				
v.	) NOTICE OF HEARING ON ) PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE			
WALMART, INC.,				
Defendant.	)			

COMES NOW Plaintiff Maureen Barrett, by and through her attorney of record, and hereby provides notice of hearing regarding her Motion for Leave to File an Amended Complaint which was filed on May 8, 2023.

This hearing shall be conducted on May 9, 2023 at 11:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, before the Honorable Michael Smith.

DATED on this 8th day of May, 2023.

MAUREEN BARRETT, Plaintiff,

Lyle Living

By:

Kyle McGinn, #25696 HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C. 1005 S. 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200 Omaha, NE 68114 (402) 390-9000 (402) 397-7915 (fax) kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

I hereby certify that on Monday, May 08, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Notice-Hearing to the following:

Walmart, Inc. represented by MARK JOSEPH GOLDSMITH (Bar Number: 26429) service method: Electronic Service to mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602) service method: Electronic Service to mwatson@hauptman-obrien.net

Signature: /s/ Kyle McGinn (Bar Number: 25696)

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019898015 Filing Date: 05/09/2023 02:29:07 PM CDT

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MAUREEN BARRETT,	
Plaintiff,	Case No. CI 23-223
v.	JOINT MOTION FOR
WALMART, INC.,	STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER
Defendant.	

Plaintiff Maureen Barrett and Defendant Walmart, Inc. (the "Parties") jointly move this Court for entry of a Stipulated Protective Order (attached hereto as Exhibit A). In support of this Motion, the Parties state that they will need to exchange confidential documents in support of their respective positions that are confidential, proprietary, or trade secrets and/or may contain medical or employee information. The Parties wish to stipulate to a protective order to protect any such confidential information.

WHEREFORE, the Parties request that the Court enter the Stipulated Protective Order, attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Dated this 9th day of May 2023.

MAUREEN BARRETT, Plaintiff,

By: /s/ Kyle J. McGinn

Kyle J. McGinn (NE# 25696) Hauptman, O'Brien, Wolf & Lathrop, P.C. 1005 S 107<sup>th</sup> Ave, Ste 200

Omaha, NE 68114 Phone: 402-390-9000 Facsimile:: 402-397-7915

Email:

kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com

WALMART, INC., Defendant,

By: /s/Mark J. Goldsmith

Mark J. Goldsmith (NE#

26429)

George E. Martin, III (NE#

21747)

BAIRD HOLM LLP

1700 Farnam St, Ste 1500

Omaha, NE 68102-2068

Phone: 402-344-0500 Facsimile: 402-344-0588

Email: mgoldsmith@bairdholm.co

gmartin@bairdholm.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

Attorney for Defendant

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I filed the foregoing document electronically with the Sarpy County District Court via the Nebraska.gov e-filing System this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023, which sent electronic notification of such filing to:

Kyle J. McGinn – <u>kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com</u>

/s/ Mark J. Goldsmith

DOCS/2969758.2

I hereby certify that on Tuesday, May 09, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Motion to the following:

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Kyle McGinn (Bar Number: 25696) service method: Electronic Service to kmcginn@hauptman-obrien.net

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602) service method: Electronic Service to mwatson@hauptman-obrien.net

Signature: /s/ MARK JOSEPH GOLDSMITH (Bar Number: 26429)

Image ID: D00257880D59

### JOURNAL ENTRY AND ORDER(S)

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Maureen Barrett v. Walmart, Inc.

Printed on 5/09/2023 at 3:44

Room 59D07

Case ID: CI 23 223

Page 1

Decision Date 5/09/2023

\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### APPEARANCES

Judge Michael A Smith Defendant Walmart, Inc.

Counsel Mark J Goldsmith

Plaintiff Maureen Barrett Counsel Kyle J McGinn Appeared

Did NOT Appear

Appeared

Did NOT Appear

Appeared

#### ADDITIONAL ENTRIES OF RECORD

Hearing held. Order to enter.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Hon.

Michael a Smith

/09/2023

Date

Bail:

ape Nos. Amy Luttman

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I the undersigned, certify that on May 9, 2023 I served a copy of the foregoing upon the following persons at the addresses given, by mailing by United States Mail, postage prepaid, or E-mail:

Mark J Goldsmith mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com

Kyle J McGinn

kmcginn@hauptman-obrien.net

Don Heath

Steven M Lathrop slathrop@hauptman-obrien.net

Date: May 9, 2023

Signature:

CLERK CLERK OF THE DISTRICT CCOURT

COURT COPY

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019898897 Filing Date: 05/09/2023 03:22:25 PM CDT

Case ID: CI23-223

### **ORDER**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MAUREEN BARRETT V. WALMART, INC.

This matter came before the Court on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2023 on the Defendant's motion to dismiss and on the Plaintiff's motion to for leave to file an amended complaint. Kyle McGinn appeared for the Plaintiff. Mark Goldsmith appeared for the Defendant. Hearing was held, argument heard and the Court finds that the Plaintiff's motion should be granted and the Defendant's motion should be overruled.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Plaintiff's motion for leave to file an amended complaint is granted, and the Plaintiff shall have 7 days from the date of this order to file her amended complaint. The Defendant shall have 10 days thereafter to file a pleading in response.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Defendant's motion to dismiss is denied.

Michael A Smith

Michael a. Smith

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, certify that on May 9, 2023 , I served a copy of the foregoing document upon the following persons at the addresses given, by mailing by United States Mail, postage prepaid, or via E-mail:

Mark J Goldsmith mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com Steven M Lathrop slathrop@hauptman-obrien.net

Don Heath

Kyle J McGinn

kmcginn@hauptman-obrien.net

Date: May 9, 2023 BY THE COURT:

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019899630 Filing Date: 05/09/2023 05:22:55 PM CDT

# IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MAUREEN BARRETT

CASE NO. CI 23-223

Plaintiff,

AMENDED COMPLAINT & DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

WALMART, INC.,

Defendant.

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Maureen Barrett, and for her Amended Complaint against the Defendant Walmart, Inc., alleges and states as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff Maureen Barrett is a resident of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska.
- 2. Defendant Walmart, Inc., ("Walmart") is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of business located in Bentonville, Arkansas, that at all times relevant operated and controlled a retail store located at 8525 S. 71st Plaza, Papillion, Sarpy County, Nebraska ("the Papillion Walmart") and any employees thereof.
- 3. Venue is appropriate in Sarpy County, Nebraska, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-403.01, as the cause of action described hereafter arises there.
- 4. The Court has jurisdiction over Walmart, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-536, as it transacts business in this state.
- 5. Walmart and its employees owe the patrons of the Papillion Walmart a duty of ordinary care.
- 6. That on or about December 10, 2022, Maureen Barrett went to the Papillion Walmart to shop.
- 7. While shopping at the store, Maureen Barrett was struck by an unidentified Walmart employee, who was pushing a large cart out of a nearby aisle in the course of their employment or was so nearly struck by said unidentified Walmart employee, that she was forced to undertake emergency evasive action.

- 8. That such actions by the unidentified Walmart employee, in failing to sufficiently keep a lookout or keep the cart under control, leading to the collision or near collision were a breach of Walmart's duty of ordinary care to Barrett and other patrons of the Papillion Walmart.
- 9. That as a direct, and proximate result of the Walmart's employee either making direct contact or nearly making contact with Maureen Barrett, she sustained person injuries resulting in physical pain, mental suffering, physical disfigurement, permanent injury to her body, emotional distress, inconvenience, anxiety, worry, stress, embarrassment, and humiliation; her injuries are permanent, and she may reasonably expect to experience physical and emotional pain and suffering into the future.
- 10. That as a further direct and proximate result of Walmart's employee either making direct contact with Maureen Barrett, or nearly making contact with her, she incurred medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries. **Barrett's medical expenses to date total \$14,095.00**. Her injuries are permanent, and she may reasonably expect to incur future medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries.
- 11. The Plaintiff hereby makes a demand for a jury trial in this matter. WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays for judgment for their special and general damages and her costs herein expended.

DATED on this 9th day of May, 2023.

MAUREEN BARRETT, Plaintiff,

By:

Steven M. Lathrop, #16602 Kyle J. McGinn, #25696

HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C. 1005 South 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200

1005 South 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200

Omaha, NE 68114 T: (402) 390-9000

F: (402) 397-7915

slathrop@omahapersonalinjury.com kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

# Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Amended Complaint to the following:

Walmart, Inc. represented by MARK JOSEPH GOLDSMITH (Bar Number: 26429) service method: Electronic Service to mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602) service method: Electronic Service to mwatson@hauptman-obrien.net

Signature: /s/ Kyle McGinn (Bar Number: 25696)

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019898015 Filing Date: 05/10/2023 08:38:14 AM CDT

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MAUREEN BARRETT,			
Plaintiff,	Case No. CI 23-223		
v.	STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER		
WALMART, INC.,			
Defendant.			

The parties, having reached an agreement for a Protective Order, and THE COURT, having been advised in the premises; IT IS ORDERED:

- A. <u>DEFINITIONS</u>. Limitations under this Protective Order on the use or disclosure of documents, deposition testimony or other discovery designated as "Confidential" shall apply to (a) all information, copies, extracts and complete or partial summaries prepared or derived from such documents or testimony; (b) portions of deposition transcripts, answers to interrogatories, responses to requests for admissions, responses to requests for production, initial disclosures and exhibits thereto which directly refer or directly relate to any such information, documents, copies, extracts or summaries; and (c) portions of briefs, memoranda or any other writing filed with the Court and exhibits thereto which directly relate to any such information, documents, copies, extracts or summaries. Such Confidential Information shall include the following:
- i. Any and all documents referring or related to confidential and proprietary human resources, customer, or business information; financial records of the parties; compensation of Defendant's current or former personnel; policies, procedures and/or training materials of Defendant; security of Defendant; and/or Defendant's organizational structure;

- ii. Any documents from the personnel, medical, FMLA, or workers' compensation file of any current or former employee or contractor:
- iii. Any documents relating to the Plaintiff's medical and/or health benefits information or that of any of Defendant's other customers or employees;
- iv. Any portions of depositions (audio or video) where Confidential Information is disclosed or used as exhibits.
- B. <u>CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS</u>. Before produced documents are copied or inspected, the producing party may stamp as "Confidential" any document or deposition testimony it believes contains confidential or proprietary business information and/or trade secrets in order to limit disclosure as set forth in this Paragraph B. Documents may also be designated as "Confidential" by written notice to opposing counsel which identifies the documents so designated by Bates number. Documents designated "Confidential," deposition testimony so designated, and information derived therefrom will be retained by counsel and will not be used for any purpose other than this litigation and will not be disclosed except pursuant to court order entered after notice, to anyone except:
- i. Counsel who have signed this Order approving it as to form and content, attorneys who are employed or are members of the law firms of counsel who have signed this Order, retained outside counsel, in-house counsel, law clerks, secretaries, or paralegals directly involved in this litigation;
- ii. Experts and consultants retained by either of the parties for purposes of assisting in the preparation or presentation of claims or defenses;
- iii. Any deposition or trial witness, during the course of deposition or trial testimony, when necessary to the testimony of such witness, or during preparation for deposition or trial testimony;
  - iv. Any person who was involved in the preparation of the

#### document;

- v. Court, Court personnel, court reporters, and similar personnel;
- vi. The named parties to this case, excluding their agents and/or representatives except those identified at Paragraph B(i) above; provided such parties review the confidential materials with their attorney or at their attorney's office. "Parties" shall mean those officers, directors, and corporate counsel charged with decision-making authority on this lawsuit and designated in advance of the disclosure.
- vii. Any other person with the prior written consent of the party producing the document, pleading or deposition testimony.

Prior to receiving or being shown such documents or deposition testimony, persons falling in the categories listed above in subparagraphs (ii), (iv), and (vii) shall be shown a copy of, and shall agree in writing, or on the record during trial or deposition, to be bound by the terms of this Protective Order. During a deposition, any party asserting confidentiality of any of its documents shall ask the deponent on the record to accept the terms of this Order. If the deponent refuses to assent, disclosure of the documents during deposition shall not constitute a waiver of confidentiality. Under such circumstances, the witness shall sign the original deposition transcript in the presence of the court reporter and no copy of the transcript or exhibits shall be given to the deponent.

Documents marked confidential shall be maintained at the offices of counsel and each party shall not be permitted to keep or possess copies of any documents marked confidential, which were produced to them by the other party. Provided that, however, each party may be shown confidential documents in the presence of their counsel or documents may be provided to expert witnesses provided the expert witness is not a party and does not provide the documents to a party.

C. <u>DOCUMENTS ALREADY PRODUCED</u>. Within ten days of the entry of this Order, a party may inform the party to whom

documents have been produced that it considers certain documents already produced as being subject to this Order as "Confidential".

- D. THIRD PARTY WITNESSES. A copy of this Protective Order shall be served with a subpoena or Notice of Deposition on each third-party deponent. A third-party witness may designate a document as "Confidential" pursuant to this Order by stamping it with such notice prior to production or so identifying it on the record during the deposition of that third party. Either party may also designate documents produced by a third party as being "Confidential" pursuant to the terms of this Order within ten (10) days of being made aware of the content of such documents. Any document produced by a third party shall be treated as "Confidential" pursuant to the terms of this Order for such ten (10) day period and thereafter if designated as "Confidential" by either party or by the third party which produces it. The "Confidential" restrictions of this Order shall no longer apply to any document produced by a third party which has not been designated as "Confidential" by the third party or by a party within such ten (10) day period.
- E. <u>CHALLENGE TO DESIGNATION</u>. Any party may challenge the "Confidential" designation of any document, by moving the Court for an Order to challenge the confidentiality designation. The parties shall attempt to resolve such disagreement before submitting it to the Court. If the challenging party files such a motion within such time, the documents shall continue to be treated as "Confidential" pursuant to the terms of this Order until such time as the Court has made a ruling with respect to the motion. The burden to prove the document is not privileged is on the moving party.
- F. <u>RETURN OF DOCUMENTS</u>. Upon completion of the litigation all documents and copies of the same designated "Confidential" shall be destroyed or returned to counsel for the producing party with signed statement reflecting the disposition. This Order shall not terminate upon the conclusion of this action but shall continue until the further order of the Court or until the party claiming confidentiality has waived the same in writing.

- G. <u>USE OF DOCUMENTS</u>. Documents produced by any party, including, but not limited to, "Confidential" documents and information from any documents acquired in discovery in this litigation shall not be used for any purpose except in connection with this litigation. Nothing in this Order shall limit any party or person in its use of its own documents or from disclosing its own documents and information. This Order or production of any documents shall not affect the admissibility of any such document or be deemed a waiver of any objection to the admissibility of such documents.
- H. <u>EXCEPTIONS</u>. The restrictions embodied in this Order shall be binding on the party to whom "Confidential" information is disclosed unless and until there is a showing that:
- i. Such information was or has become public knowledge absent a breach of this Protective Order; or
- ii. The party to whom such disclosure was made had already learned such information from a third party who himself has not breached any confidential relationship which may have existed or exists between such third party and the party making the disclosure.
- I. <u>NON-EXCLUSIVITY</u>. This Order does not affect the right of a party to seek to compel disclosure or production of a document or to seek an order modifying or limiting this Order in any aspect. The obligations and prohibitions under this Order are not exclusive. No disclosure under this order shall constitute a waiver of any objection to admissibility of the document or applicable privilege. All other ethical, legal and equitable obligations are unaffected by this agreement.
- J. <u>WAIVER</u>. Any waiver under this Order must be made in writing or, if at a deposition or in Court, on the record.
- K. <u>ENFORCEMENT</u>. Any party or person subject to the obligations and prohibitions of this Order who is determined by the Court to have violated its terms is subject to sanctions imposed by the Court pursuant to the Supreme Court's Discovery Rules or other applicable law.

SO	ORDERED	this	10th day of	May	$\sim$ 2023.

BY THE COURT:

District Court Judge

Prepared, Submitted, and Agreed Upon By:

MAUREEN BARRETT, Plaintiff,

By: \_/s/ Kyle J. McGinn\_

Kyle J. McGinn (NE# 25696)

Hauptman, O'Brien, Wolf &

Lathrop, P.C.

1005 S 107th Ave, Ste 200

Omaha, NE 68114

Phone: 402-390-9000

Facsimile: 402-397-791

Email:

kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

WALMART, INC., Defendant,

By: /s/Mark J. Goldsmith

Mark J. Goldsmith (NE#

26429)

George E. Martin, III (NE#

21747)

BAIRD HOLM LLP

1700 Farnam St, Ste 1500

Omaha, NE 68102-2068

Phone: 402-344-0500

Facsimile: 402-344-0588

Email:

mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com

gmartin@bairdholm.com

Attorney for Defendant

DOCS/2969759.1

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, certify that on May 10, 2023 , I served a copy of the foregoing document upon the following persons at the addresses given, by mailing by United States Mail, postage prepaid, or via E-mail:

Mark J Goldsmith mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com Steven M Lathrop slathrop@hauptman-obrien.net

Don Heath

Kyle J McGinn

kmcginn@hauptman-obrien.net

Date: May 10, 2023 BY THE COURT:

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019959757

Filing Date: 05/23/2023 01:33:30 PM CDT

# IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MAUREEN BARRETT,

CASE NO. CI 23-223

Plaintiff,

VS.

WALMART, INC.,

Defendant.

PLAINTIFF'S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Maureen Barrett, by and through her attorney of record, Kyle J. McGinn, and for her Motion for Leave to File Second Amended Complaint pursuant to Neb. Ct. R. Pldg. §6-115, hereby requests the Court's permission to amend her Second Amended Complaint filed herein, as set forth in the proposed Second Amended Complaint attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "A". In support, Plaintiff states as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff commenced this action on February 1, 2023, which concerns a December 3, 2022 incident at a Walmart retail location in Papillion, Sarpy County, Nebraska. Plaintiff's treatment for her alleged injuries sustained because of this incident is ongoing.
- 2. Plaintiff previously amended her Complaint once, pursuant to Court order of May 9, 2023, for the limited purpose of updating the amount of her special damages.
- 3. Plaintiff, through her Counsel, has continued her efforts to obtain updated accident-related medical bills, in a good faith effort to comply with Neb. Ct. R. Pldg. §6-1109(h). To date, she has now obtained copies of bills totaling \$66,447.45.
- 4. Plaintiff is thus seeking leave of Court to file the attached Second Amended Complaint, solely to again update this figure. Of course, "leave shall be freely given when justice so requires." Neb. Ct. R. Pldg. §6-1115(a).
- 5. Defendant, through its Counsel, has reviewed this Motion and the proposed Second Amended Complaint, and has no objection.

WHEREFORE the Plaintiff Maureen Barret respectfully requests this Court enter an Order granting Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to File Second Amended Complaint, and for such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable.

# DATED this 23rd day of May, 2023.

MAUREEN BARRETT, Plaintiff

By:

Kyle J. McGinn, #25696

HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C.

1005 S 107<sup>th</sup> Ave Ste 200

Omaha, NE 68114 Voice: (402) 390-9000 Fax: (402) 397-7915

Email: kmcginn@hauptman-obrien.net

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

It is hereby certified that a copy of the above and foregoing document was emailed to the below-listed attorney of record on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2023.

Kylehivin

Mark J. Goldsmith
Baird Holm LLP
1700 Farnam Street
Suite 1500
Omaha, NE 68102-2068
mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com

# IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

#### MAUREEN BARRETT

CASE NO. CI 23-223

Plaintiff,

v.

WALMART, INC.,

Defendant.

SECOND AMENDED
COMPLAINT & DEMAND
FOR TRIAL BY JURY

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Maureen Barrett, and for her Second Amended Complaint against the Defendant Walmart, Inc., alleges and states as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff Maureen Barrett is a resident of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska.
- 2. Defendant Walmart, Inc., ("Walmart") is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of business located in Bentonville, Arkansas, that at all times relevant operated and controlled a retail store located at 8525 S. 71st Plaza, Papillion, Sarpy County, Nebraska ("the Papillion Walmart") and any employees thereof.
- 3. Venue is appropriate in Sarpy County, Nebraska, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-403.01, as the cause of action described hereafter arises there.
- 4. The Court has jurisdiction over Walmart, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-536, as it transacts business in this state.
- 5. Walmart and its employees owe the patrons of the Papillion Walmart a duty of ordinary care.
- 6. That on or about December 10, 2022, Maureen Barrett went to the Papillion Walmart to shop.
- 7. While shopping at the store, Maureen Barrett was struck by an unidentified Walmart employee, who was pushing a large cart out of a nearby aisle in the course of their employment or was so nearly struck by said unidentified Walmart employee, that she was forced to undertake emergency evasive action.



- 8. That such actions by the unidentified Walmart employee, in failing to sufficiently keep a lookout or keep the cart under control, leading to the collision or near collision were a breach of Walmart's duty of ordinary care to Barrett and other patrons of the Papillion Walmart.
- 9. That as a direct, and proximate result of the Walmart's employee either making direct contact or nearly making contact with Maureen Barrett, she sustained person injuries resulting in physical pain, mental suffering, physical disfigurement, permanent injury to her body, emotional distress, inconvenience, anxiety, worry, stress, embarrassment, and humiliation; her injuries are permanent, and she may reasonably expect to experience physical and emotional pain and suffering into the future.
- 10. That as a further direct and proximate result of Walmart's employee either making direct contact with Maureen Barrett, or nearly making contact with her, she incurred medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries. Barrett's medical expenses to date total \$66,447.45. Her injuries are permanent, and she may reasonably expect to incur future medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries.
- 11. The Plaintiff hereby makes a demand for a jury trial in this matter. WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays for judgment for their special and general damages and her costs herein expended.

DAT	ED on	this	day	of	May.	2023.
		uiis	au	$\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{I}}$	IVIU 7 9	

MAUREEN BARRETT, Plaintiff,

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Steven M. Lathrop, #16602 Kyle J. McGinn, #25696

HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C. 1005 South 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200

Omaha, NE 68114

T: (402) 390-9000 F: (402) 397-7915

slathrop@omahapersonalinjury.com kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

# Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Motion-Leave to File Additional Pleadings to the following:

Walmart, Inc. represented by MARK JOSEPH GOLDSMITH (Bar Number: 26429) service method: Electronic Service to mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602) service method: Electronic Service to mwatson@hauptman-obrien.net

Signature: /s/ Kyle McGinn (Bar Number: 25696)

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0019977407 Filing Date: 05/25/2023 06:02:38 PM CDT

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MAUREEN BARRETT, Plaintiff,	) ) Case No. CI 23-223
vs.	) ANSWER AND
WALMART, INC.,,	<ul> <li>AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES</li> <li>TO THE PLAINTIFF'S FIRST</li> <li>AMENDED COMPLAINT</li> </ul>
Defendant.	) AMENDED COMPLAINT )

Defendant Walmart, Inc. ("Walmart"), by and through its undersigned counsel, for its Answer and Affirmative Defenses to the Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint & Demand for Trial by Jury (the "FAC") in the above-captioned matter, alleges as follows:

- 1. Walmart is without sufficient information to admit the allegations contained in Paragraph 1 of the FAC and therefore denies them.
- 2. Walmart admits that it is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business located in Bentonville, Arkansas, and that owned and operated the store located at 8525 S 71<sup>st</sup> Plaza, Papillion, Sarpy County, Nebraska, but denies the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 2 of the FAC.
- 3. Paragraph 3 of the FAC calls for a legal conclusion to which no response is required, and therefore Walmart denies the allegations contained therein.
- 4. Paragraph 4 of the FAC calls for a legal conclusion to which no response is required, and therefore Walmart denies the allegations contained therein.

- 5. Paragraph 5 of the FAC calls for a legal conclusion to which no response is required, and therefore Walmart denies the allegations contained therein.
- 6. Walmart is without sufficient information to admit the allegations contained in Paragraph 6 of the FAC and therefore denies them.
- 7. Walmart denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 7 of the FAC.
- 8. Walmart denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 8 of the FAC.
- 9. Walmart denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 9 of the FAC.
- 10. Walmart denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 10 of the FAC. Walmart specifically denies that it is responsible for any alleged damages to the Plaintiff.
- 11. Paragraph 11 of the FAC calls for a legal conclusion to which no response is required, and therefore Walmart denies the allegations contained therein.
- 12. Walmart specifically denies that it is responsible for any alleged damages to the Plaintiff and further denies the remaining allegations contained in the "Wherefore" clause following Paragraph 11 of the FAC.

WHEREFORE, Walmart requests that the Court dismiss the Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint with prejudice and award Walmart its reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in defending this matter and other relief the Court considers appropriate.

### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

- 1. The damages allegedly sustained by the Plaintiff, if any, were proximately caused and contributed to by the Plaintiff's own negligence and want of ordinary care, which is equal to, or greater than, the total negligence of all persons or entities against whom recovery is sought and of a sufficient degree to totally bar any recovery.
- 2. The injuries or damages allegedly sustained by the Plaintiff were proximately caused by an intervening and/or superseding cause or causes, which Walmart neither supervised nor controlled, and had no right or ability to supervise or control.
- 3. The Plaintiff has failed to take certain reasonable and practical steps to mitigate any damages she may have sustained as a result of the alleged events referred to in the FAC.
- 4. In the event Walmart is found liable, the Plaintiff's damages, if any, should be reduced in proportion to her comparative fault.
- 5. The Plaintiff's claims are barred by the doctrine of assumption of risk.
  - 6. The FAC fails to state a claim for which relief can be granted.
- 7. Walmart reserves the right to raise any additional affirmative defenses which become known or of which Walmart becomes aware during the course of discovery or investigation.

Dated this  $25^{th}$  day of May 2023.

# WALMART INC., Defendant,

By: /s/ Mark J. Goldsmith

Mark J. Goldsmith (NE #26429)
George E. Martin III (NE #21747)
Of BAIRD HOLM LLP
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DOCS/2972287.2

# Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on Friday, May 26, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Answer to the following:

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602) service method: Electronic Service to mwatson@hauptman-obrien.net

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Kyle McGinn (Bar Number: 25696) service method: Electronic Service to kmcginn@hauptman-obrien.net

Signature: /s/ MARK JOSEPH GOLDSMITH (Bar Number: 26429)

Case Number: D59Cl230000223 Transaction ID: 0020009278 Filing Date: 06/02/2023 11:18:55 AM CDT

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MAUREEN BARRETT

CASE NO. CI 23-223

Plaintiff,

SECOND AMENDED

COMPLAINT & DEMAND
FOR TRIAL BY JURY

WALMART, INC.,

Defendant.

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Maureen Barrett, and for her Second Amended Complaint against the Defendant Walmart, Inc., alleges and states as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff Maureen Barrett is a resident of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska.
- 2. Defendant Walmart, Inc., ("Walmart") is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of business located in Bentonville, Arkansas, that at all times relevant operated and controlled a retail store located at 8525 S. 71st Plaza, Papillion, Sarpy County, Nebraska ("the Papillion Walmart") and any employees thereof.
- 3. Venue is appropriate in Sarpy County, Nebraska, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-403.01, as the cause of action described hereafter arises there.
- 4. The Court has jurisdiction over Walmart, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-536, as it transacts business in this state.
- 5. Walmart and its employees owe the patrons of the Papillion Walmart a duty of ordinary care.
- 6. That on or about December 10, 2022, Maureen Barrett went to the Papillion Walmart to shop.
- 7. While shopping at the store, Maureen Barrett was struck by an unidentified Walmart employee, who was pushing a large cart out of a nearby aisle in the course of their employment or was so nearly struck by said unidentified Walmart employee, that she was forced to undertake emergency evasive action.

- 8. That such actions by the unidentified Walmart employee, in failing to sufficiently keep a lookout or keep the cart under control, leading to the collision or near collision were a breach of Walmart's duty of ordinary care to Barrett and other patrons of the Papillion Walmart.
- 9. That as a direct, and proximate result of the Walmart's employee either making direct contact or nearly making contact with Maureen Barrett, she sustained person injuries resulting in physical pain, mental suffering, physical disfigurement, permanent injury to her body, emotional distress, inconvenience, anxiety, worry, stress, embarrassment, and humiliation; her injuries are permanent, and she may reasonably expect to experience physical and emotional pain and suffering into the future.
- 10. That as a further direct and proximate result of Walmart's employee either making direct contact with Maureen Barrett, or nearly making contact with her, she incurred medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries. **Barrett's medical expenses to date total \$66,447.45**. Her injuries are permanent, and she may reasonably expect to incur future medical expenses in the care and treatment of her injuries.
- 11. The Plaintiff hereby makes a demand for a jury trial in this matter. WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays for judgment for their special and general damages and her costs herein expended.

DATED on this 2nd day of June, 2023.

MAUREEN BARRETT, Plaintiff,

By:

Steven M. Lathrop, #16602

Kyle J. McGinn, #25696

HAUPTMAN, O'BRIEN, WOLF & LATHROP, P.C. 1005 South 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200

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slathrop@omahapersonalinjury.com kmcginn@omahapersonalinjury.com ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

# Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on Friday, June 02, 2023 I provided a true and correct copy of the Amended Complaint to the following:

Barrett, Maureen, represented by Steven Lathrop (Bar Number: 16602) service method: Electronic Service to mwatson@hauptman-obrien.net

Walmart, Inc. represented by MARK JOSEPH GOLDSMITH (Bar Number: 26429) service method: Electronic Service to mgoldsmith@bairdholm.com

Signature: /s/ Kyle McGinn (Bar Number: 25696)